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Sixty-sixth session

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General Committee

Summary record of the 1st meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Wednesday, 14 September 2011, at 10 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. Al-Nasser (President of the General Assembly) ..... (Qatar)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.

Organization of the sixty-sixth regular session of the General Assembly, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items (A/BUR/66/1)

Memorandum by the Secretary-General

1. **The Chairman** drew attention to the memorandum by the Secretary-General regarding the organization of the sixty-sixth regular session of the General Assembly, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items (A/BUR/66/1).

Chapter II. Organization of the session

2. **The Chairman** drew the Committee's attention to paragraph 6 of the Secretary-General's memorandum and said that he trusted that he would shortly receive from each of the Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly a letter concerning the designation of a liaison person for the duration of the session.

3. *The Committee took note of all the relevant information contained in chapter II of the memorandum. It decided to draw the attention of the General Assembly to all the necessary information, in particular the information contained in paragraph 41 of the memorandum concerning the timely submission of draft proposals for the review of their programme budget implications, and to recommend to the General Assembly that it should take action on all the proposals contained in that chapter. It also decided to draw the attention of the General Assembly to the information contained in paragraph 46 of the memorandum on the views of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the use of the phrase "within available resources" and the Advisory Committee's views on the responsibility of the Secretariat to inform the General Assembly regarding the availability of resources to implement a new activity.*

Chapter III. Adoption of the agenda

4. **The Chairman** informed the Committee that, in accordance with paragraph 2 (a) of the annex to General Assembly resolution 58/316, the draft agenda was organized under headings corresponding to the priorities of the Organization as contained in every medium-term plan, or in the strategic framework, with an additional heading for "Organizational, administrative and other matters".

Paragraphs 53 to 55

5. *The Committee took note of the information contained in paragraphs 53 to 55 of the memorandum.*

Inclusion of items

6. **The Chairman** said that, since the agenda was organized under nine headings, the Committee might wish to consider the inclusion of items under each heading as a whole. However, the Committee might wish to take separate decisions on certain items, where it was deemed appropriate, including in some cases the placement of items under appropriate headings.

7. The draft agenda contained 17 new items, namely item 29 under heading A (Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences), item 34 (a) under heading B (Maintenance of international peace and security), item 86 under heading F (Promotion of justice and international law), and item 124 (b) and items 130, 131 and 166 to 176 under heading I (Organizational, administrative and other matters).

Paragraph 56

Items 1 to 8

8. **The Chairman** drew attention to paragraph 56 of the memorandum. Items 1 to 8 were not under any heading. The General Assembly had already dealt with items 1 and 2. Items 3 to 8 related to organizational matters.

9. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of items 1 to 8.*

Heading A. Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences

Item 29. People's empowerment and a peace-centric development model

10. **The Chairman** said that the inclusion of item 29 had been requested by Bangladesh (A/66/197).

11. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of item 29 under heading A.*

12. *The Committee also decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of the items listed under heading A, taking into account the decision taken regarding item 29.*

Heading B. Maintenance of international peace and security

Item 34 (a). Strengthening the role of mediation in the peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and resolution

13. **The Chairman** said that item 34 (a) had been included in the draft agenda pursuant to General Assembly resolution 65/283 and, as a new item, had been listed tentatively under heading B.

14. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of item 34 (a) under heading B.*

Item 40. Question of the Comorian island of Mayotte

15. **The Chairman** said that the General Assembly, at the 118th plenary meeting of the sixty-fifth session, had decided to include item 40 in the provisional agenda for its sixty-sixth session.

16. **Mr. Meetarbhan** (Mauritius) said that after consultations with the delegation of the Comoros, he wished to propose that the Committee should recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion of the item in the agenda on the understanding that there would be no consideration of the item.

17. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of item 40 under heading B, on the understanding that there would be no consideration of the item.*

Item 61. Question of the Malagasy islands of Glorieuses, Juan de Nova, Europa and Bassas da India

18. **The Chairman** said that the General Assembly, at the 2nd plenary meeting of its sixty-fifth session, had decided to include item 61 in the provisional agenda for its sixty-sixth session.

19. **Ms. Le Fraper du Hellen** (France), supported by **Mr. Zinsou** (Benin), proposed that the Committee should recommend to the General Assembly that consideration of item 61 should be deferred to its sixty-seventh session.

20. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that consideration of item 61 should be deferred to its sixty-seventh session and that the item should be included in the provisional agenda for that session.*

21. *The Committee also decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of the items listed under heading B, taking into account the decisions taken regarding items 34 (a), 40 and 61.*

Heading C. Development of Africa

22. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of the items listed under heading C.*

Heading D. Promotion of human rights

23. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of the items listed under heading D.*

Heading E. Effective coordination of humanitarian assistance efforts

24. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of the items listed under heading E.*

Heading F. Promotion of justice and international law

Item 86. The law of transboundary aquifers

25. **The Chairman** said that item 86 had been included in the draft agenda pursuant to General Assembly resolution 63/124 of 11 December 2008 and, as a new item, had been listed tentatively under heading F.

26. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of item 86 under heading F.*

27. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of the items listed under heading F, taking into account the decision taken regarding item 86.*

Heading G. Disarmament

28. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of the items listed under heading G.*

Heading H. Drug control, crime prevention and combating international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations

29. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of the items listed under heading H.*

Heading I. Organizational, administrative and other matters

Item 124 (b). Central role of the United Nations system in global governance

30. **The Chairman** said that item 124 (b) had been included in the draft agenda pursuant to General Assembly resolution 65/94 and, as a new item, had been listed tentatively under heading I.

31. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of item 124 (b) under heading I.*

Item 130. International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals

32. **The Chairman** said that the inclusion of item 130 had been requested by the Secretary-General in document A/66/143.

33. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of item 130 under heading I.*

Item 131. Interaction between the United Nations, national parliaments and the Inter-Parliamentary Union

34. **The Chairman** said that item 131 had been included in the draft agenda pursuant to General Assembly resolution 65/123 and, as a new item, had been listed tentatively under heading I.

35. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of item 131 under heading I.*

Item 166. Observer status for the Cooperation Council of Turkic-speaking States in the General Assembly

36. **The Chairman** said that the inclusion of item 166 had been proposed by Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Turkey in document A/66/141.

37. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of item 166 under heading I.*

Item 167. Observer status for the International Emergency Management Organization in the General Assembly

38. **The Chairman** said that the inclusion of item 167 had been proposed by the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in document A/66/142. The representative of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia had asked to participate in the discussion of those items in accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure.

39. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Ms. Zografska-Krsteska (the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) took a place at the Committee table.*

40. **Ms. Zografska-Krsteska** (the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) said that her delegation wished to withdraw its proposal of the item. The Secretary-General had been informed of that decision by a letter from the Permanent Representative dated 5 September 2011.

41. *The Committee decided to take note of the withdrawal of item 167.*

Item 168. Observer status for the Union of South American Nations in the General Assembly

42. **The Chairman** said that the inclusion of item 168 had been proposed by Guyana in document A/66/144.

43. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of item 168 under heading I.*

Item 169. Observer status for the International Renewable Energy Agency in the General Assembly

44. **The Chairman** said that the inclusion of item 169 had been proposed by the United Arab Emirates in document A/66/145.

45. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of item 169 under heading I.*

Item 170. Observer status for the Central European Initiative in the General Assembly

46. **The Chairman** said that the inclusion of item 170 had been proposed by Italy, Montenegro, Serbia and Ukraine in document A/66/191.

47. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of item 170 under heading I.*

Item 171. Observer status for United Cities and Local Governments in the General Assembly

48. **The Chairman** said that the inclusion of item 171 had been proposed by Turkey in document A/66/192. The title of the item should be revised to read "Observer status for the United Cities and Local Governments in the General Assembly".

49. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of item 171, as orally revised, under heading I.*

Item 172. Observer status for the Intergovernmental Authority on Development in the General Assembly

50. **The Chairman** said that the inclusion of item 172 had been proposed by Ethiopia in document A/66/193.

51. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of item 172 under heading I.*

Item 173. Financing of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei

52. **The Chairman** said that the inclusion of item 173 had been requested by the Secretary-General in document A/66/194.

53. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of item 173 under heading I.*

Item 174. Financing of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan

54. **The Chairman** said that the inclusion of item 174 had been requested by the Secretary-General in document A/66/195.

55. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of item 174 under heading I.*

Item 175. Observer status for the Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic-speaking Countries in the General Assembly

56. **The Chairman** said that the inclusion of item 175 had been proposed by Azerbaijan in document A/66/196.

57. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of item 175 under heading I.*

Item 176. Observer status for the International Conference of Asian Political Parties in the General Assembly

58. **The Chairman** said that the inclusion of item 176 had been proposed by Cambodia, Japan, Nepal, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea and Viet Nam in document A/66/198.

59. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of item 176 under heading I.*

60. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion in the agenda of the items listed under heading I, taking into account the decisions taken regarding items 115, 124 (b) and items 130, 131 and 166 to 176.*

Chapter IV. Allocation of items

Paragraphs 57 to 59

61. *The Committee took note of the information contained in paragraphs 57 to 59.*

Paragraph 60

62. **The Chairman** said that, in paragraph 60 of his memorandum, the Secretary-General had listed items of the draft agenda which had not been considered previously by the General Assembly. If the members of the Committee agreed, he would first request the Committee to decide on the recommendation it should make regarding the allocation of those items, which it had just recommended for inclusion in the agenda of the sixty-sixth session.

63. *It was so decided.*

Item 29. People's empowerment and a peace-centric development model

64. **The Chairman** said that, owing to the nature of the item, the Secretary-General had suggested that it should be allocated to the Second Committee.

65. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 29 should be allocated to the Second Committee.*

Item 34 (a). Strengthening the role of mediation in the peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and resolution

Item 124 (b). Central role of the United Nations system in global governance

66. **The Chairman** said that, owing to the nature of the items, the Secretary-General had suggested that they should be considered directly in plenary meeting.

67. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that items 34 (a) and 124 (b) should be considered directly in plenary meeting.*

Item 86. The law of transboundary aquifers

68. **The Chairman** said that, owing to the nature of the item, the Secretary-General had suggested that it should be allocated to the Sixth Committee.

69. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 86 should be allocated to the Sixth Committee.*

Item 130. International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals

70. **The Chairman** said that, owing to the nature of the item, the Secretary-General had suggested that it should be considered directly in plenary meeting and also allocated to the Fifth Committee.

71. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 130 should be considered directly in plenary meeting and also allocated to the Fifth Committee.*

Item 131. Interaction between the United Nations, national parliaments and the Inter-Parliamentary Union

72. **The Chairman** said that, owing to the nature of the item, the Secretary-General had suggested that it should be considered directly in plenary meeting.

73. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 131 should be considered directly in plenary meeting.*

Item 173. Financing of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei

Item 174. Financing of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan

74. **The Chairman** said that, owing to the nature of the items, the Secretary-General had suggested that they should be allocated to the Fifth Committee.

75. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that items 173 and 174 should be allocated to the Fifth Committee.*

Item 166. Observer status for the Cooperation Council of Turkic-speaking States in the General Assembly

Item 168. Observer status for the Union of South American Nations in the General Assembly

Item 169. Observer status for the International Renewable Energy Agency in the General Assembly

Item 170. Observer status for the Central European Initiative in the General Assembly

Item 171. Observer status for United Cities and Local Governments in the General Assembly

Item 172. Observer status for the Intergovernmental Authority on Development in the General Assembly

Item 175. Observer status for the Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic-speaking Countries in the General Assembly

Item 176. Observer status for the International Conference of Asian Political Parties in the General Assembly

76. **The Chairman** recalled that, in accordance with paragraph 2 of resolution 54/195, any request by an organization for the granting of observer status in the General Assembly would be considered in plenary meeting after the consideration of the issue by the Sixth Committee. The Committee would therefore proceed accordingly with the consideration of items 166, 168 to 172, 175 and 176.

77. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that items 166, 168 to 172, 175 and 176 should be allocated to the Sixth Committee.*

Item 9. Report of the Economic and Social Council

78. *The Committee took note of the information contained in paragraph 68 and decided to recommend that the General Assembly, when considering item 9 in its entirety in plenary meeting, should take note of the clarification that, in implementing resolution 58/316, the relevant parts of chapter I of the report of the Economic and Social Council would be considered by the Main Committees concerned, under agenda items already allocated to them, for final action by the Assembly.*

Item 14. Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields

79. *The Committee took note of the information contained in paragraph 69.*

Item 14. Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields

Item 118. Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit

80. *The Committee took note of the information contained in paragraph 70.*

Item 18. Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the 2002 International Conference on Financing for Development and the 2008 Review Conference

81. *The Committee took note of the information contained in paragraph 71.*

Item 19 (e). Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa

82. *The Committee took note of the information contained in paragraph 72.*

Item 27 (b). Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family

83. *The Committee took note of the information contained in paragraphs 73 and 74.*

Item 65. Report of the Human Rights Council

84. *The Committee took note of the information contained in paragraph 75.*

Item 68 (b). Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

85. *The Committee took note of the information contained in paragraph 76.*

Item 99. General and complete disarmament

86. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the relevant paragraphs of the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency should be drawn to the attention of the First Committee in connection with its consideration of item 87.*

Item 111. Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization

87. *The Committee took note of the information contained in paragraph 78.*

Item 118. Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit

88. *The Committee took note of the information contained in paragraph 79.*

Item 122. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

89. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 122 should be allocated to all the Main Committees for the sole purpose of considering and taking action on their respective tentative programmes of work.*

Item 136. Programme planning

90. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 136 of the draft agenda should be allocated to all the Main Committees and to the plenary Assembly to enhance discussion of evaluation, planning, budgeting and monitoring reports.*

Item 144. Administration of justice at the United Nations

91. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 144 should be allocated to*

the Fifth Committee and to the Sixth Committee in the light of resolution 65/251 and decision 65/513.

Plenary Assembly

92. *The Committee decided to recommend the proposed allocation of items, taking into account the decisions taken regarding items 34 (a), 65, 124 (b), 130, 131 and 136.*

First Committee

93. *The Committee decided to recommend the proposed allocation of items, taking into account the decisions taken regarding items 87, 122 and 136.*

Special Political and Decolonization Committee

94. *The Committee decided to recommend the proposed allocation of items, taking into account the decisions taken regarding items 61, 122 and 136.*

Second Committee

95. *The Committee decided to recommend the proposed allocation of items, taking into account the decisions taken regarding items 29, 122 and 136.*

Third Committee

96. *The Committee decided to recommend the proposed allocation of items, taking into account the decisions taken regarding items 65, 122 and 136.*

Fifth Committee

97. **Mr. Parham** (United Kingdom), supported by **Mr. Riecken** (Austria), **Ms. Le Fraper du Hellen** (France) and **Mr. Körösi** (Hungary), said that the allocation of agenda item 139 (Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations) to the Fifth Committee did not imply that the review provided for by General Assembly resolution 64/248 should be conducted within that Committee.

98. *The Committee decided to recommend the proposed allocation of items, taking into account the decisions taken regarding items 122, 130, 136, 144, 173 and 174.*

Sixth Committee

99. *The Committee decided to recommend the proposed allocation of items, taking into account the withdrawal of item 167 and the decisions taken regarding items 122, 136, 144, 166, 168 to 172, 175 and 176.*

The meeting rose at 11.25 a.m.